Category :
A. Under Correspondence.
B. Put up to Advisory Committee & Accepted subject to observations.
D. Pending with Planning Commission for Investment clearance.

Salinity Incursion in Coastal Areas of Orissa

4166. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the severe salinity incursion in coastal areas due to high extraction of ground water;

(b) if so, whether Government have prepared any action plan for ground water management in the large townships along the coastal areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to set up a network of observational wells in coastal areas in order to monitor the ground water table and its quality and to prepare a ground water development programme in the coastal regions especially in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Studies undertaken by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) have shown salinity incursion in Minjaur area in Tamil Nadu and parts of Pondicherry due to high extraction of ground water. Some parts of coastal areas of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Union Territory of Diu have also been found affected by ingress of seawater in low-lying areas and rivers.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Water Resources has not prepared any action plan for ground water management in large townships along the coastal areas.

(d) The CGWB has set up a network of observation wells in coastal areas, through which monitoring of ground water tables and quality is done four times in a year. The CGWB has also undertaken a project for salinity ingress and ground water recharge in Bhadrak, Kendrapara and Puri districts of Orissa. 39 shallow piezometers have been installed in creek areas of Orissa to monitor the ground water regime.

Private participation in Irrigation Projects

†4167. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether many irrigation projects are lagging behind their original time schedule;

+ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.